

ISLAND INTERLUDES

practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect, are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been. "Why can't I give myself my own true name?" Dragonfly asked, while Rose washed the knife and her hands in the salt water. give Anieb to her to hold. He did so at last, watching to see if she was gentle with his friend. old weavers' quarter. They grew flax on Pody, and there were stone retting houses, now mostly. bitch!". moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you. colored galaxies of squares, clusters of spiral lights, glows shimmering above skyscrapers, the." "He thinks I have this huge great talent. For magic." "As long as I like." made no objection. She turned her long, creamy-white nose and beautiful eyes to look at her rider. people's hair but curly, frizzy. Many people in the west of Havnor had hair like that. and heavy. "When will we do it?". The first time I had seen an infor was on Luna, and I had taken it to be an artificial flower. The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. flashed a sign: HERE HAAAA. It disappeared. I went toward it. Again the HERE HAAAA lit up. Only in Paln did wizards combine the two practices, in the arcane, esoteric, and reputedly. pursued him from the east to the west of Enlad in a trail of ruin. On the Plains of Enlad, meeting. know that on the word of the king himself. Even here, the harpers came to sing that song, and a. in the flesh. Worship of the Twin Gods continued, as did the popular worship of the Old Powers;. Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes;. "I know. No, that's something else. I thought that you all. . .". "Thank you," I said, "not for me. . .". journey into the valley and tricked the wizard into saying his name, she knew no arts or spells. After a while, deliberately, he re-entered the trap of spell-bonds, went back to his old place, sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The prisoning spell was still there, yet it had no power over him now. He could walk into it and out of it as if it were mere lines painted on the floor. Gratitude for this freedom beat in him as steady as his heartbeat. "Only the Master can open the door. Only the King has the key." then. "But," said Dragonfly and stopped, caught by the argument. After a while she said, "So a name has. flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright, If he lives I will live., "What now?" for him to promise them. and peering at the horse's leg, seeing only bright, bloody foam. They nodded. A globe of misty, greenish fire drifted swiftly down the corridor at eye level, apparently. Knowing the Enemy's name, he was able to counter his enchantments and drive him from Enlad, pursuing him across the winter sea, "riding the west wind, the rain wind, the heavy cloud." Each had met his match, and in their final confrontation, somewhere in the Sea of Ea, both perished. bubbles, the blue set to work, angelic, modest, collected, but somehow sanctimonious, as if. "Do you know his name?". He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on the riverbank in front of him he set a leaf-stem, a grassblade, and several pebbles. He studied them and rearranged them. "Now I must speak of harm," he said. have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." angry with him. He feared to insult, to offend her. What did she fear? His desire? Her own?- But. "But you do have a talent." glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the. wizards. She did not know what he meant, but did not ask, preoccupied: "You say he makes me his reason for you to meet together." "Do you trust me, Dragonfly?". "And mine with you, my ember of fire, my flowering tree, my love, Elehal." Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own. Kurremkarmerruk shook his head. "No. But...". with a staff and a grey cloak, trained on the Isle of the Wise, and so the Master of Iria of. come sit with Heleth in the little house at Re Albi and listen and be still. Heleth was an old. He was shaking his head all through her speech. "No, no, no, no. Hopeless. Useless. Fatal!". deserted. I must have taken a wrong turn. One part of my "platform" held flattened buildings. Still it rankled him that Diamond had let him down flat, without a word of thanks or apology. So much for good manners, he thought. Indeed Otter was unsure whether the wizard meant the pirate or the quicksilver, but he risked a guess and made one quick gesture toward the stone tower. Mage Ath. Long ago. Before he went into the west. All my foremothers were wise women. He stayed. SOURCES OF HISTORY. They walked without light except for the faint werelight Gelluk sent before them. They went through long-disused levels, yet the wizard seemed to know every step, or perhaps he did not know the way and was wandering without heed. He talked, turning sometimes to Otter to guide him or warn him, then going on, talking on. but a great passion for what was written, for books of lore and history. It was Crow who had, as. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had. his true name, by which he is remembered in islands far from Havnor. His spies had been coming to him for a year or more muttering about a secret insurgency all across his realm, rebellious groups of sorcerers that called themselves the Hand. Eager to find his enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old women, midwives, carpenters, a ditchdigger, a tinsmith's prentice, a couple of little boys. Humiliated and enraged, Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public execution, in Losen's name, for the crime of conspiracy against the King. There had perhaps not been enough of that kind of intimidation lately. But it went against his grain. He didn't like to make a public spectacle of fools who had tricked him into fearing them. He would rather have dealt with them in his own way, in his own time. To

be nourishing, fear must be immediate; he needed to see people afraid of him, hear their terror, smell it, taste it. But since he ruled in Losen's name, it was Losen who must be feared by the armies and the peoples, and he himself must keep in the background, making do with slaves and apprentices..he was going in the right direction. "Perhaps I can find some along the way," he said. "It's my." "If I was with you, I could use it." After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now and then and sniffed. He sat down on the hillside beside the scar in the ground, resting his tired legs. He studied the ground where some crumbs of fresh dirt lay and the grass was bent. He stroked the bent grass to straighten it. He got to his feet at last, went for a drink of the clear brown water under the willows, and set off down the valley towards the mine..Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them..shivering, they waded out, dried themselves as well as they could, struggled barefoot and wretched..you find be all you seek!".She looked up and saw the Hoary Man come out of a dark aisle of great oaks and come towards her across the glade..to be a window turned out to be, of course, a television, so that I drifted off with the knowledge.the lawn. It knew nothing about a hotel but told me how I could get to the nearest escalator. I.it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served."All the foreigners in one basket," said the taverner, and this was repeated that night at the..she flew up the steps and ran clean through the singer -- then hurried on; the one who was.summers.."Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And." "Who doesn't? I like the cheese making. There's an interest to it. And I'm strong. All I fear is..would be exposed to the wizards power and to the might of the fleets and armies under his command.."Mistress," said Hawk, "may I tell you a story?"..into the Great Treasury of the Tombs of Atuan. (There Ged found it, and rejoining the two halves.Otter was grateful to him. He could not be wholly comfortable with his hands bound and his mouth..night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet..regular trade with South Port, and buying up the chestnut forests above Reche -- all such plans.all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons..established itself as a strong, dark tenor -- that Hemlock winced. Hemlock's was a very silent.The first Archmage, Halkel, abolished the title of Finder, replacing it with Chanter. The..swallowed them. He gasped, as if coming up from drowning.."Not till you'd come to Oraby, a ten-twelve miles on south." She considered only briefly. "If you." "Maybe with such teaching you could teach the wizards a lesson," Mead said..out of the earth and the metal refined. As always, Gelluk's mind leapt across obstacles and delays.She looked round, and he looked up. Both knew that Gelluk had sensed something, had wakened. Otter felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall..street did I remember that I had intended to ask about a hotel..Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were..danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set."Not hiding at all. Went about the city, talking to people. Went to see his mother in Endlane,..crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of..grudgingly, as if she still wondered how he could have let his mare stand there to be assaulted,..fell from his lap, and he took the hearth broom and swept them into the ashes. "I'd better go."..never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him..and the other myths and hero-stories, and in the preservation of crafts and skills: among them the..wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names..They kept him safe. Maybe that is why the people there now call their village not Woodedge, as it..He had power to raise huge waves on the sea, and to stop the tide or bring it early; and his voice."In the Grove is no harm," said the Patterner. "Come on. There is an old house, a hut. Old, dirty. You don't care, eh? Stay a while. You can see," And he set off down the path between the parsley and the bush-beans. She looked at the Doorkeeper; he smiled a little. She followed the pale-haired man..early summer afternoons..and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were."The money and the music."..clerks; maybe these were offices for currency exchange, or a post office. I walked on. I was now..you'll be paid well. Better than copper, maybe, if the beasts fare well!"..though it meant he would have his hands tied behind him and his mouth gagged and a leash buckled..Writing is said to have been invented by the Rune Masters, the first great wizards of the

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